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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 933
INFO RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 1253
RUEHRO/AOEMBASSY ROME 1214
RUOMPL/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 648
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 4723

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: OREP PREL PTER BU TU
SUBJECT: BULGARIAN CLAIM THAT TURKISH EXTRADITION REQUEST
ON CELENK HAS BEEN DROPPED

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT

2. AT A DINNER HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR FOR CODEL MEMBERS ON DECEMBER 14, TWO SENIOR BULGARIAN MFA OFFICIALS GAVE SEPARATE CONTRADICTORY STATEMENTS ON THE STATUS OF THE TURKISH REQUEST FOR THE EXTRADITION OF BEKIR CELENK. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER AND CHIEF DE CABINET, ALEKSANDUR STREZOV, TOLD POLEC CHIEF THAT THE TURKISH REQUEST FOR CELENK'S EXTRADITION HAD BEEN DROPPED BECAUSE CELENK WAS WANTED ONLY ON METAL SMUGGLING CHARGES WHICH WOULD BRING A MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF ONE YEAR IN PRISON; AND SUCH CHARGES ARE NOT COVERED BY THE EXTRADITION TREATY. UPON HEARING THIS, TURKISH AMBASSADOR OMER LUTEM TOLD AMBASSADOR "IT WAS NEWS TO HIM" IF THE TURKISH REQUEST FOR EXTRADITION HAD BEEN DROPPED.

3. ALSO DURING THE DINNER, CODEL MEMBER, REPRESENTATIVE F JAMES SENSENBRENNER ASKED MFA FOURTH DEPARTMENT CHIEF, VALERI PCHELINTSEV, WHY THE BULGARIANS REFUSE TO EXTRADITE CELENK, IF, AS HE HAD CONSTANTLY HEARD DURING THE VISIT, THE BULGARIANS HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE. A VISIBLY UNCOMFORTABLE PCHELINTSEV REPLIED SIMPLY THAT BULGARIA DOES NOT HAVE AN EXTRADITION TREATY WITH TURKEY, AND, THUS, THE REQUEST FOR EXTRADITION IS INVALID. AMBASSADOR LUTEM, WHO WAS AT THE SAME TABLE AND HEARD THE QUESTION, ALSO ASKED WHY BULGARIA DID NOT "GIVE UP CELENK". PCHELINTSEV REFUSED TO ANSWER.

4. WE CONSIDER IT UNLIKELY THAT TURKISH AMBASSADOR WOULD NOT KNOW THAT HIS COUNTRY HAD DROPPED THE EXTRADITION REQUEST. IN ANY CASE, REQUEST ANKARA AND ISTANBUL ADVISE IF THEY HAVE HEARD ANYTHING THAT MIGHT SHED LIGHT ON THIS. LEVITSKY
END OF MESSAGE

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ACTION: NONE INFO: NMON, ODPG-G, ODPN-N, ODPS-S, ODPW-W,
 OGI/GD/ERA, OGI/IIC/PI, OGI/ISI/AT, OGI/TNA/SN-3, OGITNATAB1, OGITNATAB2,
 OOE/EI/MA, OOE/EI/PS, OOE/EI/SI, OOE/TU, OOE/WE, OPCTR/EEWE, RF,
 SOV/CS/E/P, SOV/PA/F/E, FILE, DDO-4, DDA, EUR/CGT-2, EUR/PMT, EUR/RR,
 EUR/SEC, ASG/AM, CPN/CTG-4, CR/E, CRES/ARO, CTG/ISB-3, D/FBIS-2, D/QMS,
 DOSO/AODCT, EPO/EUR, EPS/LG-2, ICS/HC/EU, INT/RR, NCECF, NCPM, NICAG/TWI,
 NIO/CT, NIO/EUR, OCG/NIF-2, OIA/ERRS, OIA/TWSS, OLL/LD-3, OTS/SAD,
 PCS/PGG, PPS/AO-2, PPS/PO-2, PPS/SEO-3, QA/STATE, SECUR-2, STD/PPC,
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 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1174
 INFO RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0038
 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP ISA//
 BT
 S E C R E T ANKARA 11381

NOFORN

DEPARTMENT FOR M/CT

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO CIA

ROME FOR LEGAT

E.O. 12356; DECL:OADR
 TAGS: PTER, ASEC, PINS, AMGT, TU
 SUBJECT: REPORT ON THE 13 DECEMBER MEETING OF THE
 JOINT GROUP ON TERRORISM.

REFS: A. ANKARA 10485, B.STATE 346004, C. ANKARA 11159

1. SECRET NOFORN ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: US SIDE THANKED GOT FOR EXCELLENT PROGRAM
 IN HONOR OF ~~CODEL EDWARDS~~ AND GAVE STATUS OF PROTECTION
 OF TURKISH CONGEN IN LA. TURKISH SIDE ASKED FOR US
 HELP IN GOT EFFORTS TO RECEIVE PROTECTION FOR ITS UN
 OFFICIALS IN VIENNA AND FOR TURKS IN THE US FACING
 REMOTE BOMB THREATS. TURKS ALSO PROVIDED LIST OF
 PROPOSED FOLLOW-ON ATA TRAINING PROGRAMS (PARA 5).
 NEXT JOINT GROUP MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 10 IN
 CONNECTION WITH VISIT OF AMBASSADOR OAKLEY. END SUMMARY.
 3. U.S. SIDE THANKED GOT FOR PROGRAM ARRANGED IN HONOR
 OF CODEL EDWARDS (SEPTTEL), NOTED THAT WE WERE STILL
 SEEKING INFORMATION ON DAVOUDIAN (PARA 5, REF A), AND
 EXPLAINED SITUATION REGARDING PROTECTION OF TURKISH
 CONGEN IN LA (REF B).

4. TURKISH SIDE NOTED THAT RECENT KILLING OF TURKISH
 DIPLOMAT IN VIENNA WAS THE FIRST TIME SUCH AN ATTACK
 WAS MADE AGAINST A TURK WORKING AS AN OFFICIAL OF AN
 INTERNATIONAL AGENCY. WE WERE ASKED TO ENSURE THAT THE
 USG SUPPORTS GOT EFFORTS IN THE UN TO ACQUIRE PROTECTION
 FROM THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT FOR TURKS IN THIS SITUATION

5. TURKISH SIDE ALSO PROVIDED PRELIMINARY TECHNICAL
 INFORMATION ON THE REMOTE BOMB THAT FAILED TO EXPLODE

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ON 11 DECEMBER WHEN PLACED IN FRONT OF THE HOME OF A TURKISH DIPLOMAT IN BRUSSELS. THEY OBSERVED THAT THIS TOO REPRESENTED A "FIRST" AND REQUESTED SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS BEING MADE BY TURKISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR TURKISH OFFICIALS IN THE US AGAINST THIS NEW TYPE OF THREAT.

6. FINALLY, TURKS PRESENTED FOLLOWING PROPOSALS FROM VARIOUS AGENCIES FOR FURTHER TRAINING UNDER ATA PROGRAM. MISSION WOULD HOPE THAT AMBASSADOR OAKLEY COULD DISCUSS THESE PROPOSALS AT THE JOINT GROUP MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JAN 10.

A. MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION: (1) AIRPORT SECURITY (INCLUDING SECURITY OF BUILDINGS, ENVIRONMENT, AND CONTROL OF PASSENGERS, BAGGAGE, AND CARGO); (2) SECURITY OF AIRCRAFT.

B. MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS: (1) GENERAL ANTI-TERRORISM TRAINING FOR OFFICIALS WHO DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN PHASE-I PROGRAM; (2) PREVENTION OF ARMS SMUGGLING (IDENTIFICATION, ARREST, SEIZURE); (3) NARCOTICS CONTROL (DETECTION AND SEIZURE).
(COMMENT: THIS MINISTRY IS CONCERNED OVER THE CONNECTION BETWEEN TERRORISM AND PROBLEMS OF ARMS AND NARCOTICS SMUGGLING.)

C. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR: OFFICIAL PROPOSAL SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IN A FEW DAYS, AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO DEPARTMENT; AREAS OF INTEREST WILL PROBABLY COVER THOSE CITED IN PARA 7, REF A.

STRAUSZ-HUPE
END OF MESSAGE

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ACTION: NONE INFO: NMON, ODPG-G, ODPN-N, ODPS-S, ODPW-W,
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 INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
 RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
 RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
 RUEBARE/DIRNAVINSERV WASHINGTON DC
 RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
 RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
 RUETIAH/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
 RUEOFAA/COMUSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
 RUCJAAA/USCINCRD MACDILL AFB FL
 RUCIFBA/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INW/INZ//
 RUEABOL/HQ AFOSI BOLLING AFB DC
 RUDHAAB/CDRUSAITAC ARLINGTON HALL STATION VA
 RUEALGX/SAFE
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STRAUSZ-HUPE
END OF MESSAGE

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STATE

ACTION: NONE INFO: NMON, ODPG-G, ODPH-H, ODPN-N, ODPS-S, ODPW-W,
 OGI/IIC/PI, OGI/ISI/AT, OGI/TNA/SN-3, OGITNATAB1, OGITNATAB2, OOE/EE/R,
 OOE/EEBU-3, OOE/EI/MA, OOE/QAG, OOE/RBOP, OOE/RCME, OOE/RDEF, OOE/RNMP,
 OOE/RTRD, OPCTR/EEWE, PLANFAC-E (), RF, SOV/CS/E/E, SOV/CS/E/P,
 SOV/CS/S/M, SOV/CS/Y, SOV/EAC, SOV/PA/F/E, SOV/PA/FO, SOV/PA/S, SOV/SFC,
 SOV/TWA/FO, FILE, DDO-4, DDA, SE/BB, SE/OPB, SE/ORP, SE/RR, SE/XFR,
 ASG/AM, CEX/TTIC-3, CPN/CTG-4, CR/E, CTG/ISB-3, D/FBIS-2, D/QMS-3,
 DOSO/AODCT, EPS/LG-2, ICS/HC/EE, INT/RR, NCECF, NCPM, NICAG/TWI, NIO/CT,
 NIO/ECON, NIO/EUR, NIO/GPF, NIO/NARC, NIO/USSR, OCG/ICB, OCG/NIF-2,
 OIA/ERRS, OIA/TWSS, OLL/LD-3, OTS/SAD, PCS/PGG, PPS/AO-2, PPS/PO-2,
 PPS/SEO-3, QA/STATE, SECUR-2, STD/LSB, STD/PPC, VC/NIC, (65/W)

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PP RUEAIIB
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 FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 928
 INFO RUEABND/DEA HQS WASHDC
 RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 1248
 RUDKRB/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE 6122
 RUFHEB/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 2775
 RUDKAR/AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST 6158
 RUDKDA/AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST 4894
 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 5567
 RUDKRP/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE 4742
 RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 1209
 RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 6009
 RUDKRW/AMEMBASSY WARSAW 4557
 RUFHNA/USMISSION USNATO 2324
 BT
 S E C R E T SOFIA 4722

VIENNA FOR DEA

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PREL SNAR PTER SHUM US BU OREP
 SUBJECT: CODEL EDWARDS MEETING WITH TODOR ZHIVKOV

1. S-ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUMMARY: IN LONG MEETING WITH CODEL EDWARDS
 DECEMBER 15, A JOCLAR AND SOMETIMES SARCASTIC TODOR
 ZHIVKOV MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:
 --US HAS ELEVATED BULGARIA TO PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER
 ONE. ZHIVKOV SAID HE WAS NOT ACCUSING PRESIDENT REAGAN
 OF LAUNCHING "ANTI-BULGARIAN CAMPAIGN" BUT MADE
 REPEATED REFERENCES TO CIA'S ALLEGED DESIRE TO
 ESTABLISH THE "BULGARIAN CONNECTION".
 --BULGARIA NOT ONLY IS INNOCENT OF CHARGES OF
 INVOLVEMENT IN DRUGS AND ARMS TRAFFICKING BUT WANTS
 TO COOPERATE IN STEMMING DRUGS AND STOPPING
 TERRORISM. HE ADMITTED THAT "INDIVIDUAL BULGARIANS"
 MIGHT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL DRUGS AND ARMS
 SALES BUT STATED FIRMLY THAT NO "AUTHORIZED
 BULGARIANS" WERE INVOLVED.
 --IN DISCUSSING TERRORISM AND THE PAPAL ASSASSINA-
 TION ATTEMPT, ZHIVKOV CITED AS PROOF OF BULGARIA'S
 INNOCENCE THE CLAIM THAT THE POLITBURO AND HE WOULD
 HAVE HAD TO GIVE THEIR APPROVAL.
 --BULGARIA WANTS GOOD RELATIONS WITH US AND
 WELCOMES US-SOVIET TALKS.

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CONGRESSMAN EDWARD NOTED OUR INTEREST IN DIVIDED FAMILIES AND AMBASSADOR PRESENED US REPLIST TO FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL PRESENT. END SUMMARY.

3. CHAIRMAN OF HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, CONGRESSMAN DON EDWARDS, SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER CONGRESSMAN F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, SUBCOMMITTEE STAFF MEMBERS KIKO AND LEROY, AND AMBASSADOR LEVITSKY MET WITH BULGARUAN CHIEF OF STATE TODOR ZHIVKOV FOR ONE HOUR AND FIFTEEN MINUTES AT BULGARIAN OFFICIAL BOYANA RESIDENCE LATE AFTERNOON, SATURDAY DECEMBER 15. ZHIVKOV WAS ACCOMPANIED BY CHAIRMAN OF BULGARIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY STANKO TODOROV, AND ELENA POTTODOROVA, MFA COUNSELOR AND INTERPRETER.

4. AFTER INITIAL PICTURE TAKING AND VIDEO FILMING, (WHICH APPEARED ON SATURDAY EVENING NEWS), ZHIVKOV OPENED MEETING BY WELCOMING CODEL, SAYING HE KNEW THEY HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY WIDE VARIETY OF TOP BULGARIAN EXPERTS ON SUBJECTS (I.E. TERRORISM AND DRUG TRAFFICKING) IN WHICH THEY WERE INTERESTED. HE RECALLED HE HAD BEEN TO THE US THREE TIMES SO HE HAD AN IMPRESSION OF THE COUNTRY. THE FIRST TIME WAS FOR THE 15TH UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHEN NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV, THE "LEADER OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES" FIRST SECRETARIES", ATTENDED THE SESSION. AMID MUCH LAUGHING AND NUDGING OF TODOROV, WHEN ZHIVKOV DESCRIBED AS HIS SECOND IN COMMAND DURING THE "LIBERATION OF SOFIA FROM THE FASCISTS" IN SEPTEMBER 1944, ZHIVKOV RECOUNTED A DINNER PARTY ARRANGED BY CYRUS EASTON AT WHICH A PROMINENT AMERICAN MINISTER HAD ASKED HIM WHY HE HAD "KILLED ALL THE PRIESTS" IN HIS COUNTRY.

VIENNA FOR DEA

ZHIVKOV SAID HE TOLD THE MAN THAT THERE WAS NO KILLING, "ONLY TOLERANCE". IN FACT, HE SAID, HIS MOTHER WAS CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX AND WANTED A CHRISTIAN BURIAL. ZHIVKOV SAID HE WENT ON TO SAY TO THE MINISTER THAT HE HAD "FALLEN VICTIM TO YOUR OWN PROPAGANDA". HE ADDED THAT "THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT IS HAPPENING TODAY".

5. WITH REPEATED LOUD LAUGHTER, BUT WITH A RATHER PERCEPTIBLE UNDERTONE OF IRRITATION AND BITTERNESS, ZHIVKOV SAID, OF COURSE, BULGARIA COULD NOT BE COMPARED WITH THE US, IT WAS ONLY A "MINIATURE". BULGARIA HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN SMALL, HE SAID, SINCE ITS NEIGHBORS HAD "SNATCHED" PARTS OF IT OVER THE YEARS. BUT, "WE ARE CONTENT TO LIVE WITHIN THE BORDERS WE HAVE NOW". AND, HE LAUGHED, WHY WOULD WE WANT A LARGER COUNTRY, WE WOULD ONLY HAVE "MORE ARMS PROBLEMS AND MORE DRUG TRADE PROBLEMS". ZHIVKOV ENDED THIS EXTENDED JOKE BY ROARING THAT ACCORDING TO FOREIGN PRESS REPORTS BULGARIA IS IN THE DRUG TRADE, BUT BULGARIA DOES NOT EVEN KNOW IF THIS TRADE WILL BE PROFITABLE IN THE FUTURE.

6. CONGRESSMAN EDWARDS THANKED ZHIVKOV FOR THE COURTESIES AND KINDNESSES EXTENDED BY THE GOB AND FOR THE MANY SUBSTATIVE MEETINGS THAT HAD BEEN ARRANGED. HE CONGRATULATED ZHIVKOV ON THE MANY ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS THE CODEL HAD SEEN IN SOFIA AND PLOVDIV. THE CODEL WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE FRANK TALKS WITH OFFICIALS FROM THE FOREIGN, FINANCE AND INTERIOR MINISTRIES. HE SAID HE FELT THERE HAD BEEN TOO MUCH MISUNDER-

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STANDING ON THE QUESTION OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND TOO LITTLE TALK. THE CODEL HAD BEEN TO TURKEY AND WOULD BE IN ISRAEL TO CONTINUE ITS INVESTIGATION OF THIS ISSUE. CONGRESSMAN SENSENBRENNER ADDED HIS THANKS FOR BULGARIAN HOSPITALITY AND SAID ZHIVKOV SHOULD NOT FEEL TOO BADLY ABOUT PRESS CRITICISM SINCE BOTH BULGARIA AND THE US CONGRESS WERE IN THE SAME POSITION IN THIS REGARD.

7. WITH SARCASM, ZHIVKOV SAID, HE AGREED AND WANTED TO "THANK THE US ADMINISTRATION" FOR PROMOTING THE BULGARIAN PEOPLE AND GIVING BULGARIA MORE ATTENTION. HE SAID A "US UNDERSECRETARY" FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT (SIC) HAD CALLED BULGARIA "PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE". THIS, HE SAID, WAS A "GREAT HONOR".

8. DISCUSSION OF ILLEGAL NARCOTICS TRAFFIC. CONGRESSMAN SENSENBRENNER SAID HE KNEW THAT DRUGS AND TERRORISM WERE UNPLEASANT SUBJECTS, BUT THEY WERE ISSUES THAT HAD BEEN ON THE RISE OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS. HE SAID HIS HOPE WAS THAT THERE COULD BE INCREASED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION AND BULGARIAN INTERNAL SECURITY AGENCIES AND CUSTOMS TO YAMP OUT INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFIC. THIS WAS MORE THAN A CUSTOMS PROBLEM, SINCE EVEN THE MOST VIGILANT CUSTOMS OFFICIAL COULD NOT CATCH 100 PERCENT OF ALL DRUGS. CONGRESSMAN SENSENBRENNER SAID THAT IDEOLOGY MUST NOT HINDER THE DRIVE TO STAMP OUT "THIS CONCERN".

9. ZHIVKOV SAID HE FULLY AGREED. BULGARIA WAS SITUATED IN AN AREA FREQUENTED BY DRUG TRAFFICKING. IT WAS ON THE DRUG ROUTE, HE SAID, "WE KNOW THAT OUR RESPONSIBILITIES ARE" AND ARE TRYING TO CARRY THEM OUT. HE WAS NOT HOPEFUL THAT THE DRUG TRAFFIC COULD BE ELIMINATED 100 PERCENT. HE SAID HE WANTED TO POINT OUT THAT THIS COST BULGARIA A GOOD DEAL OF MONEY. BULGARIA HAD TO INVEST MORE IN BORDER CONTROLS. HE CLAIMED BULGARIA HAD NO REAL DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM SO THAT ITS EFFORTS WERE OF EUROPE AND OTHER COUNTRIES". ZHIVKOV SAID HE RECEIVED A REPORT ON DRUG ABUSE AND VENERAL DISEASE EVERY THREE MONTHS(AND ACCORDING TO HIM, A DAILY CRIME REPORT) AND HE COULD SAY THAT THERE WERE ONLY 300 DRUG ABUSE CASES IN BULGARIA.

VIENNA FOR DEA

10. WITH SOME HEAT, ZHIVKOV DECLARED THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO COOPERATE "AS WE USED TO" BUT "WE NEED FACTS". BULGARIA HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF INVOLVEMENT IN THE ILLEGAL DRUGS AND ARMS TRADE, " THIS IS RIDICULOUS". ZHIVKOV SAID HE COULD NOT SAY THAT NO BULGARIAN HAD EVER BEEN ENGAGED IN THIS ACTIVITY BUT COULD SAY THAT "NO AUTHORIZED BULGARIANS" WERE INVOLVED. IF SO, "THEY WOULD BE PROSECUTED". HE REPEATED THAT "INDIVIDUAL BULGARIANS" MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN "DEALS AND SPECULATION" BUT THERE WAS "NO STATE SANCTIONS". HE CLAIMED BULGARIAN HAD ALWAYS TRIED TO COOPERATE WITH ALL COUNTRIES, BUT "ONLY THE US HAD ACCUSED US". WITH STILL MORE HEAT, HE SAID, "PLEASE TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT AND WE WILL DO IT. IF YOU HAVE FACTS, SUMMIT THEM AND WE WILL DEAL WITH THEM".

11. CONGRESSMAN EDWARDS INTERJECTED THAT WITH A NEW AMBASSADOR THE TWO GOVERNMENTS COULD MAKE A FRESH START. HE EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE

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PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING DRUG TRAFFICKING (I.E. CUSTOMS COOPERATION) SHOULD BE RESTITUTED. ZHIVKOV RESPONDED THAT USG SHOULD NOT DOUBT THAT "YOU WILL HAVE FULL SUPPORT IN THIS".

12. THE AMBASSADOR INFORMED ZHIVKOV THAT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT WEEK HE WOULD MEET WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO PROPOSE THAT OFFICIALS FROM THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION COME TO BULGARIA EARLY IN 1985 TO DISCUSS DRUG TRAFFICKING WITH INTERNAL SECURITY OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF OF THE INTERIOR. THEY WOULD COME WITH INFORMATION AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO TRY TO GET AT THE HEART OF THE PROBLEM. WE WERE NOT INTERESTED IN PUBLICITY OR POLITICS BUT WERE READY TO ENGAGE IN SERIOUS TALKS.

13. ZHIVKOV WELCOMED THIS, SAYING THE STRUGGLE AGAINST DRUG TRAFFIC SHOULD BE APPROACHED SERIOUSLY "WITHOUT SPECULATION". HE ASKED THE CONGRESSMEN TO LOOK AT HOME FOR WHY ALLEGATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE AGAINST BULGARIA, EVEN BY THE CONGRESS. CONGRESSMAN EDWARDS SAID HE AND CONGRESSMAN SENSENBRENNER HAD AGREED THEY WOULD MEET WITH THE HEAD OF DEA AND WITH FBI DIRECTOR WEBSTER ON THE DRUG TRAFFICKING ISSUE WHEN THEY RETURNED.

14. DISCUSSION OF TERRORISM. CONGRESSMAN EDWARDS SAID THAT HE WANTED TO TURN TO THE MAIN OBJECT OF THE CODEL'S MISSION, THAT OF TERRORISM AND THE "BULGARIAN CONNECTION". HE SAID HE COULD UNDERSTAND BULGARIAN IRRITATION AND ASKED ZHIVKOV WHAT HE THOUGHT WERE BEHIND THE ALLEGATIONS THAT PUT BULGARIA ON THE FRONT PAGES OF THE NEWSPAPERS.

15. ZHIVKOV'S LONG RESPONSE STARTED WITH A REFERENCE TO HIS AND TODOROV'S INVOLVEMENT ON THE BATTLE FOR SOFIA IN 1944. WHEN THE FINAL ASSAULT WAS MADE, HE SAID, NO ONE WAS ALLOWED TO COMMIT AN "INDIVIDUAL ACT OF TERRORISM". THE "PERMISSION" OF THE CITY PARTY COMMITTEE AND THE PARTY LEADERS WAS NEEDED. THE BULGARIAN LEADERSHIP WAS AGAINST TERRORISM: TERRORISM DESTROYS THE "PEACEFUL WORK OF THE PEOPLE". HOW COULD ANYONE BELIEVE THAT BULGARIA HAD "INSTRUCTED" THAT KILLING TAKE PLACE? IN AN INTERESTING FORMULATION. ZHIVKOV SAID THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROVED "BY THE POLITBURO". BY MYSELF, I WOULD KNOW. ONLY A "SICK PERSON" WOULD COMMIT SUCH AN ACT. HE SAID BULGARIA HAD ASSISTED WESTERN GOVERNMENTS AGAINST TERRORISM. HE REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT BULGARIA HAD TURNED OVER TO THE FRG MEMBERS OF THE BADER-MEINHOF GANG WHO WERE CAUGHT IN VARNA SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

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16. TURNING TO THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF THE POPE, ZHIVKOV HEATEDLY DENIED ANY BULGARIAN INVOLVEMENT. IF ANY SUCH THINGS HAPPENED THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR IS CALLED TO ANSWER BEFORE A "COMMITTEE OF THE PARLIAMENT". NOTING THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST BULGARIA, HE ASKED THE CONGRESSMEN TO "CALL THE CIA AND ASK WHY THIS HAPPENED. THEY WILL GIVE YOU ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED". HE SAID, "WE HAVE MADE THE ATTEMPT TO HAVE UNDERSTANDING BUT THE US GOVERNMENT IS UNWILLING TO COOPERATE." BULGARIA WAS CERTAIN THE SITUATION WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME CLEAR, HE SAID.

17. THE AMBASSADOR STATED THE OFFICIAL USG

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POSITION ON THE ANTONOV TRIAL, NOTING THAT THE USG HAD REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE TRIAL AND HAD NEVER ACCUSED BULGARIA. OUR CLEARLY STATED POSITION WAS TO LEAVE THE MATTER TO THE ITALIAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

18. ZHIVKOV RESPONDED THAT "I AM NOT ACCUSING PRESIDENT REAGAN OF INITIATING THE "CAMPAIGN"). HE REITERATED HIS REQUEST THAT THE CONGRESS ASK THE CIA ABOUT THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST BULGARIA. THE DIRECTOR OF THE CIA IS "BEST EQUIPPED" TO EXPLAIN THIS HE CLAIMED. THE CIA KNEW THAT TOSE INDICATED PERSONS WERE NOT INVOLVED IN A CONSPIRACY, THAT THE BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT WAS NOT BEHIND THE PLOT. "WE IN BULGARIA WILL FIGHT FOR THE TRUTH. THESE ARE BULGARIAN CITIZENS AND WE WILL DEFEND THEM TO THE END." HE DECLARED. HE WENT ON TO SAY "I AM NOT REPEATING THIS BY ACCIDENT. THE CIA IS YOUR BEST SOURCE".

19. CONGRESSMAN EDWARDS NOTED THAT HIS SUBCOMMITTEE HAD NO JURISDICTION REGARDING THE PAPAL ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, BUT SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO ZHIVKOV'S ALLEGATIONS ABOUT CIA INVOLVEMENT IN A PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST BULGARIA. HE SAID THAT IF THIS WAS PART OF THE "COLD WAR", IT WAS PROPER TO CHECK OUT.

20. US-BULGARIAN RELATIONS. ZHIVKOV THANKED CONGRESSMAN EDWARDS, SAYING BULGARIA DID NOT WANT TO "COMPLICATE" THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. HE SAID BULGARIA WAS EAGER TO DEVELOP BROAD, FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE US AND THAT IT HAD GREAT RESPECT FOR US CONTRIBUTIONS TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SCIENCE AND CULTURE. BULGARIA WANTED COOPERATION WITH THE US. ZHIVKOV REFERRED TO HIS MEETING WITH FORMER AMBASSADOR BARRY, CLAIMING HE HAD PERSONALLY RESOLVED "PRACTICALLY ALL PROBLEMS" AT THAT TIME, "WITHOUT RESORTING TO THE GOVERNMENT". BUT, HE LAUGHED BULGARIA WOULD NOT "ABOLISH" ITS SOCIALIST SYSTEM OR ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION. "I'M NOT FOOLISH," HE SAID; "I WOULD BE KICKED OUT".

21. DIVIDED FAMILIES. CONGRESSMAN EDWARDS REFERRED TO DIVIDED FAMILIES, STATING THAT HE UNDERSTOOD EMBASSY WAS HAVING PROBLEMS "WITH THE (BULGARIAN) BUREAUCRATS," IN RESOLVING THESE CASES. HE HOPED THESE FAMILIES COULD BE UNITED. NOTING THAT SOMETIMES THERE WERE "SPECIAL CASES", ZHIVKOV SAID "WE WILL RESOLVE THEM" (I.E. THOSE OTHER THAN "SPECIAL CASE."). HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE THESE LOOKED INTO. (AMBASSADOR THAN GAVE OUR REPRESENTATION LIST TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL PRESENT).

22. TOWARD END OF MEETING ZHIVKOV SAID IT MADE NO SENSE FOR US TO SEEK CONFRONTATION WITH BULGARIA. FOR 25 YEARS (SIC) BULGARIA HAD GOTTEN ALONG WITHOUT RELATIONS WITH THE US AND HE WAS SURE THE US HAD SURVIVED AS WELL. HE NOTED US UNWILLINGNESS TO ENGAGE IN HIGH TECHNOLOGY TRADE WITH BULGARIA AND CLAIMED BULGARIA NO LONGER NEEDED THIS TRADE SINCE IT HAD ALREADY DEVELOPED ITS OWN TECHNOLOGY. IN FACT, OTHER "SOCIALIST COUNTRIES" WERE "JEALOUS" OF BULGARIA IN THIS RESPECT.

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23. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE HOPED ZHIVKOV HAD NOT

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BEEN GIVEN THE IDEA THAT SOMEHOW THE USG PURPOSELY
SEEKS CONFRONTATION WITH BULGARIA. THE PROBLEMS IN
THE RELATIONSHIP WERE DUE TO SPECIFIC ISSUES OF
CONCERN AND OUR APPROACH WAS TO WORK TO SOLVE THESE
AND DEVELOP AREAS OF COOPERATION WHERE POSSIBLE
AND ADVANTAGEOUS.

24. ZHIVKOV RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT BULGARIA WAS
EQUALLY DISPOSED TO WORK ON THESE PROBLEMS AND
THAT "YOU WILL HAVE THE COOPERATION OF THE MINISTRY
OF THE INTERIOR AND MYSELF". HE SAID THERE WAS
"NOTHING HIDDEN TO IMPEDE RELATIONS BETWEEN US". HE
THANKED THE CODEL FOR COMING AND, IN HIS
ONLY REFERENCE TO US-SOVIET RELATIONS, SAID BULGARIA
WELCOMED THE UPCOMING TALKS. HE SAID IT WAS
UNREALISTIC FOR EITHER OF THE TWO DIES TO
"SUPERSEDE" THE OTHER.

25. COMMENT: GIVEN THE EVIDENCE OF BULGARIAN
INVOLVEMENT WITH DRUG TRAFFICKING, THEIR
PROVISION OF ARMS TO EXTREMIST GROUPS AND THEIR
ASSOCIATION WITH KNOWN TERRORISTS (E.G. "NATIONAL
LIBERATORS, LIKE GEORGE HABASH), ZHIVKOV'S
PROTESTATIONS OF BULGARIAN INNOCENCE AND HIS
EXPRESSIONS OF WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE ON

STEMMING DRUGS AND TERRORISM SEEM DISINGENUOUS TO
SAY THE LEAST. HIS JOVIALITY AND GOOD HUMOR,
LACED WITH SARCASM, ABOUT THE "ANTI-BULGARIAN
CAMPAIGN" MASKED WHAT SEEMED TO BE GENUINE
IRRITATION BY ALL THE BAD PRESS BULGARIA
HAS GOTTEN LATELY, AS WELL AS DETERMINATION TO
COUNTER IT. OF COURSE HE COULD NOT BE EXPECTED
TO ADMIT BULGARIAN CULPABILITY AND ONE CAN ONLY
SPECULATE OVER HOW MUCH DETAIL HE IS GIVEN ON
BULGARIAN ACTIVITIES IN DRUGS AND ARMS TRAFFIC,
AS WELL AS ASSOCIATION WITH KNOWN TERRORISTS.
AT THE SAME TIME, ZHIVKOV AND SEVERAL OTHER HIGH
BULGARIAN OFFICIALS WE HAVE SPOKEN WITH LATELY
HAVE GONE OUT THEIR WAY TO LEAVE PRESIDENT
REAGAN OUT OF THEIR ACCUSATIONS, PARALLELING
THE SOVIET APPROACH IN THIS REGARD, AND KEEPING
THE DOOR OPEN TO THEIR STATED POLICY OF SEEKING
BETTER BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE US.

26. THIS TELEGRAM WAS NOT CLEARED WITH CODEL
EDWARDS.LEVITSKY
END OF MESSAGE

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